



*Montana State Legislature*  
**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Representative Katie Zolnikov**  
House District 45

DURING THE SESSION  
State Capitol Building  
PO Box 200400  
Helena MT 59620-0400  
Phone: (406) 444-4800  
leg.mt.gov

HOME ADDRESS  
PO Box 51343  
Billings MT 59105  
Phone: (406) 690-1684  
katie.zolnikov@mtleg.gov

Energy and Telecommunication Interim Committee,

12/30/2021

I would like to request that the Energy and Telecommunication Interim Committee (ETIC) discuss redistricting the Montana Public Service Commission during our upcoming meeting on January 18, 2022. Montana received the decennial population data in August 2021. The data shows that Montana's population shift trends have become more accentuated. Per Montana law, the Montana legislature maintains statutory authority to address changes to PSC districts. This is unlike the Districting and Apportionment Commission that is currently in the process of redistricting the legislature. ETIC was formed as a legislative committee that was intended to oversee and interact with the Public Service Commission in a public forum which makes it the appropriate committee to begin discussion on this matter.

A bill draft has already been submitted to address this concern. It is ETIC's responsibility to begin the discussion of redistricting the PSC in a public setting. The upcoming legislative session is the opportune time to adjust current districts as this will be the first session to realign districts using new 2021 data. This will co-inside with the legislature reviewing new legislative districts.

With proper action and public input, ETIC and the Montana Legislature has the opportunity to roll out realigned PSC districts alongside Montana's realigned Legislative and Congressional districts prior to the 2024 election cycle.

Sincerely,

*Katie Zolnikov*

Katie Zolnikov